



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**UNITED STATES ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND**  
**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY OFFICE**  
**FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5995**

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

August 28, 2001

Freedom of Information/  
Privacy Office

Mr. Ernie Lazar  
P.O. Box 423434  
San Francisco, California 94142-3434

Dear Mr. Lazar:

This responds to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request of October 13, 1998, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for records concerning the Nationalist Action League. The FBI, on August 15, 2001, forwarded your request to this office along with Department of the Army records, retrieved from their files, for a releasability determination. This correspondence was received in this office August 27, 2001.

We have completed a mandatory declassification review in accordance with Executive Order 12958. As a result of this review, it has been determined that the information contained in the records no longer warrants security classification protection and is partially releasable to you. The records are enclosed for your use. Fees for processing this request are waived.

Since the release of some of the information deleted from the records would result in an unwarranted invasion of the privacy rights of the individuals concerned, this information is exempt from the public disclosure provisions of the FOIA per Title 5 U.S. Code 552 (b)(7)(C).

In addition, since the release of the information in the records would reveal the identity of a confidential source, it is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Title 5 U.S. Code 552 (b)(7)(D) of the FOIA. The significant and legitimate governmental purpose to be served by withholding is that a viable and effective intelligence investigative capability is dependent upon protection of confidential sources.

The withholding of the information described above is a partial denial of your request. This denial is made on behalf of Brigadier General Keith B. Alexander, the Commanding General, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, who is the Initial Denial Authority for Army intelligence investigative and security records under the FOIA. You have the right to appeal this decision to the Secretary of the Army. If you wish to file an appeal, you should forward it to this office. Your appeal must be postmarked no later than 60 calendar days from the date of this letter. After the 60 day period, the case may be considered closed; however, such closure does not preclude you from filing litigation in the courts.

We have been informed by the FBI that the information bracketed in black is exempt from public disclosure pursuant to Title 5 U.S. Code 552 (b)(7)(C) and (b)(7)(D) of the FOIA.

The withholding of the information by the FBI constitutes a partial denial of your request and you have the right to appeal this decision. If you decide to file an appeal, it should be sent to the Co-Director, Office of Information and Privacy, U.S. Department of Justice, Flag Building, Suite 570, Washington, DC 20530-0001 within 60 days from the receipt of this letter. The envelope and the letter should be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal" or "Information Appeal". Please cite FBI FOI/PA #921660 and 269633-2 assigned to your request so that it may be easily identified.

We are forwarding a copy of this letter to the FBI (#921660 and 269633-2).

If you have any questions concerning this action, please feel free to contact Mrs. Sealing at (301) 677-3802. Refer to case #1329F-01.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Russell A. Nichols". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Russell A. Nichols  
Chief, Freedom of Information/  
Privacy Office

Enclosure

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WAR DEPARTMENT

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT OFFICE  
109th CIC Detachment  
300 Bankers Securities Bldg.  
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania  
(Office of Headquarters)

Philadelphia, Pa.

(Place)

18 May 1949

(Date)

105-426

Subject: NATIONALIST ACTION LEAGUE (NAL)

Summary of Information: The first open meeting of the Nationalist Action League, an organization recently termed "fascist" by the Attorney General, was held at 2100 hours in the Penn Room of the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa. on 11 May 1949. ( ) of whom little is known at this writing, was chairman.

The NAL was first organized in Philadelphia on 29 October 1948. Its nominal head is ( )

( ) of whom more appears later in this Summary. The League appeared in a supplemental list of allegedly subversive organizations issued by the Attorney General in April 1949.

(b)(7)(D)

The meeting was covered by confidential informants of known reliability of this office, one of whom ( )

( ) According to informants, about 26 women and 31 men, in addition to the invited "observers" were present. ( ) thanked the members for the large turnout and launched into the initial speech of the evening. He gave a brief history of the League followed by a discussion of the League's bitter fight against FERC in Pennsylvania. He said that the organization took great pride in its "successful" fight against the FERC bill, and pointed out further that the League had taken up the cudgel against the centralization of government, Federal housing, Federal aid to education and socialized medicine.

The principal speaker was ( ) editor of Common Sense, a so-called anti-Communist weekly published in Union, New Jersey. Excerpts from ( ) speech are as follows:

✓ "Communism is not the thing we fear. It is the whole picture - the whole world is on fire. Sixteen countries of Europe already have

Evaluation

of source of information

Previous Distribution:

None

Distribution: 2 Hq 2A

1 FBI

1 ONI

1 File

FBI - PHILADELPHIA B-2  
MAY 19 1949

Reliable

Credible

Questionable

Undetermined

per F.B.I.

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16-37209-1 GPO

105-426-11

RECEIVED UNCLASSIFIED  
ON 28 Aug 91  
BY USAINSCOM FOWPA  
Auth Para 4-102 DOD 5200.1R

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/1/93 BY 6032/UC/LP/STP



18 May 1949

fallen to the Communists. China is gone, and the United States is 75 per cent gone. ( ) is a prisoner in Hungary, even though Hungary is only 7 per cent Communist. In the United States alone, there are 600 Communist fronts under various names. The same thing that went on in Europe (before the Communist coups) is going on here today. There are millions of dollars behind the Communist Party, hence you must decide on a leader (in Washington) you can trust.

Furthermore, you are going to have to arouse your curiosity to learn more about Communism by sending for and reading books and papers. Communism was originally financed right here in the United States, in 1914 when 176 wealthy men sailed for Europe. The backers of Communism are in New York and Hollywood. They are dupes pouring in money thinking they are building a better world. I also want to warn you about the phony anti-Communists such as Winchell and Drew Pearson, who are spokesmen for the Anti-Defamation League, one of the strongest arms of the Communists in the United States. I talked with a priest recently back from China, and he told me that he had seen 109 priests skinned alive by the Communists. We should keep in mind that we have been at war for some time - the last war didn't start with Pearl Harbor but when Roosevelt sent the 150 destroyers to England. Don't cuss Russia or the Russians. Of 190 million Russians, only 2 million are Communists. Very soon after the next war has started, Truman will come on the radio to say the U. S. is confronted by a crisis, and he will appoint a seven man board to take over the key positions in the government. Then we'll really be under the Communists. In the U.S. there are over 400 publications either owned or controlled by the Communists. After the Communists take over the country the niggers will be in worse shape than before the Civil War. I spoke to a well-known Negro in New York, and he told me that there is only one Protestant Church in the city where you can speak out openly against the Communists. All the Negroes are being swept into the ranks of Communism. This covers the three points where the Communists can gain ground - the trade unions, the fronts and the niggers. Our job is to expose these fronts. I have put everything I own into this fight against Communism. This 30 cent dollar the people are working for today will be taken from them later if Communism is not stopped. When Dean Acheson was Undersecretary of State, most of this Communist activity - Alger and Donald Hiss - came to light. It was going on under Acheson and he took the job of Secretary of State to be sure no State Department records could be used to prosecute.

remarks seem thoroughly disjointed and at times even hysterical, but they have been quoted for such as they might be worth.

League director, spoke briefly on his trip to Washington to oppose the League's listing as subversive to the Attorney General. Copies of letter, presented to Assistant Attorney General Alexander M. Campbell, were distributed at the meeting along with circulars acclaiming the League's fight for "democracy".

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2

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18 May 1949

Warnings that the meeting was to be held were received by an editor of a local newspaper in a letter from a counter group known as The Friends of Democracy, Inc., whose offices are listed as being at 137 East 57th Street, New York City. The letter, signed by ( ), national director, and listing ( ) as chairman, reads as follows:

"As you know, the Nationalist Action League of Philadelphia, directed by ( ) of ( ) was listed as "Fascist" by the Attorney General on 27 April. ( ) is editor of the extremist periodical, National Progress, - holds joint meetings with the National Blue Star Mothers, also listed as subversive - is the author of a Statistical Study of the Jewish Population, in which he states that the policy of internationalism is the springboard for Judaizing the world - wrote in a 1946 issue of his magazine that 'our task is to smash democracy'. ( ) Nationalist Action League will hold a meeting in the Penn-Sheraton Hotel, May 11, at 8 PM. Though the N.A.L. holds periodic meetings (closed) on Arch Street, this is the first attempt to branch out into the field of active pro-Fascist, anti-minority agitation. ( ) may reveal something of the World Gentile Congress to be held in Belgium this Summer which ( ) will attend. A prompt exposure of this group will be a public service. Prevent them from (1) misrepresenting themselves as loyal Americans, (2) nip a prospective threat to democracy in the bud, and (3) awaken the community to the general menace of totalitarian elements".

( ) did not mention the Belgium meeting. Member's dues were reduced from \$1.00 to \$.50 at the meeting. In his letter to the Attorney General, ( ) requested a complete investigation of the League to clear it of the subversive taint. The announced creed of the League is to "prevent the spread of Communism, Zionism and world federation; denounce and fight against legislation favoring racial minorities over all of the American people; prepare a program of education contra the Communists, political Zionists and internationalists; preserve Christian ideals and racial self-respect".

In the company of ( ) of the National Blue Star Mothers, ( ) attended a conference of the Christian Nationalists in St. Louis, Missouri on 20,21 August 1948. The Nationalists organ, The Call, passed out at the conference by ( ) lists ( ) and ( ) as delegates. It should be noted that ( ) organized the N.A. L. two months later.

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3



# WAR DEPARTMENT

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ON 28 Aug 01  
BY USAINSCOM FOWPA  
Auth Para 4-102 DOD 5200.1R

(Office of Headquarters)

Philadelphia, Pa.

(Place)

18 August 1949

(Date)

Subject: NATIONALIST ACTION LEAGUE

Summary of Information: On 5 August 1949, a confidential informant of this office attended a meeting of the NATIONALIST ACTION LEAGUE at the Whittier Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa. The NATIONALIST ACTION LEAGUE (NAL) is a Fascist group mentioned by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835. ( ) group organizer, opened the meeting at 2100 hours. There were eight women and six men present. Among these were ( ) (a Philadelphia City Hall employee), ( ) and a ( ) a ( ) and a ( ) Several letters were read at the start of the meeting from persons professing interest in the organization. One of these was from George Murphy, the Hollywood actor, which requested information concerning the World Federalist movement, which Murphy, reportedly, is against. The letter was signed by Murphy, Robert Montgomery, Ginger Rogers, Adolph Menjou, and others whose names informant could not remember. An article was read from a paper put out by the National Renaissance Party, a brother organization in Beacon, New York, mentioning ( ) as one of the most radical speakers at a New York City rally. The New York Post, which ran a critical article on the NAL was termed "one of the worst examples of the Jewish press". The Post termed NAL a bunch of Fascists which seemed to please ( ) He said he was glad it was Fascist and not subversive. Being a Fascist was, he said, "not bad at all". The National Renaissance Party, NRP, is headed by a young radical named ( ) (phonetic). He is described as being only 21 years old. Mention was made of a merger with the Loyal Americans organization, a new group as far as this office is concerned. Loyal Americans is said to have 122 members, most of whom live in New Jersey and New York. ( ) mentioned the efficiency of the NRP strong-arm men who have been in fights with Jewish pickets at their New York City rallies. He suggested bringing them to NAL meetings in Philadelphia for the same purpose. ( ) mentioned a brush with the Communists after the meeting of 22 July 1949. The NAL women journeyed to City Hall to heckle the Commie picket line on the 52-20 Club extension, and one of them got into a fight with a picket and the police were called to quell the disturbance. ( ) said that "a very prominent man" in City Hall joined them in the heckling, but his name was not mentioned.

Previous Distribution:

None

Distribution:

2 Hq 2A  
1 FBI  
1 ONI  
1 File

FBI - PHILADELPHIA  
AUG 19 1949

of Source - of information  
B-2 Reliable B-2  
Credible  
Questionable  
Undetermined

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4

18 August 1949

Membership cards for the group are being printed and may be distributed at the next meeting two weeks hence. No mention was made of the proposed NRP rally in Yorkville, the heart of the German center in New York City, which is designed to stir up anti-Jewish riots.

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5